

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Process chamber of an installation for the thermal treatment of printed circuit boards (1), with a fan wheel (30) supported on a shaft (10) parallel to the printed circuit boards (1), said fan wheel (30) being disposed between two walls (6, 7) of the process chamber, characterized in that the fan wheel (30) is open at its two opposing end faces (13, 14) and the two opposing end faces (13, 14) are configured as a pair of intakes ~~at such a distance from the walls (6, 7) of the process chamber that gas flows in unimpeded in two substreams (16, 17) between into the~~ two opposing end faces (13, 14) of the fan wheel (30) ~~and the walls (6, 7) and flows out from the cylindrical surface of the fan wheel (30) over the length thereof and in the extent of the process chamber in the form of a ribbon-shaped gas stream (28), said gas stream (28) being directed essentially in said cross section through a channel (29, 24) onto the printed circuit boards (1).~~
2. (Currently amended) Process chamber according to claim 1, characterized in that said process chamber is contained in a housing (2), said housing (2) forming with housing plates (19, 20) an intermediate space (18) with respect to ~~the~~ walls (6, 7) of the process chamber, in which intermediate space (18) the two substreams (16, 17) are guided and are supplied through penetrations (22, 23) in the housing plates (19, 20) to the two opposing end faces of the fan wheel (30).
3. (Original) Process chamber according to claim 1, characterized in that the fan wheel (30) is supported on one side in one of the two walls (6, 7).